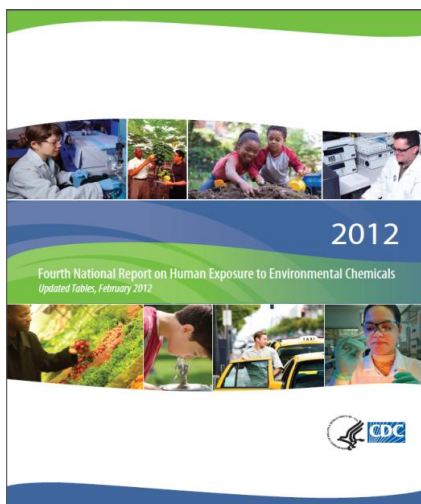


Hazardous Substances

CDC Release Fourth National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals



The Fourth National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals, Updated Tables, February 2012 provides all new data since the release of the Fourth Report in 2009. These new data include updated tables for 66 chemicals and new tables for 34 chemicals. The Fourth Report presents data for 212 chemicals.

Read more:

http://www.cdc.gov/exposurereport/pdf/FourthReport_UpdatedTables_Feb2012.pdf

Special Interest Articles:

- [Hospital Radioactive Materials](#)
- [Typical Noise Exposure](#)
- [Lead Dust & Violence](#)
- [Operating Room Ergonomics](#)
- [Court Restricts OSHA](#)

Revised Reference Exposure Levels for Nickel and Nickel Compounds

The California EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is adopting revised acute, 8-hour and chronic Reference Exposure Levels (RELs) for nickel and nickel compounds. These values and the supporting document will be added to the appendices of the Technical Support Document for the Derivation of Noncancer Reference Exposure Levels.



Read more:

<http://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-01-link-potentially-toxic-pfcs-office.html>

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New California PELs to Better Protect Workers from Hazardous Chemicals



To better protect workers who may be exposed to chemical contaminants, the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board has adopted lower PELs for carbon disulfide,

hydrogen fluoride, sulfuric acid, and toluene.

California's OSHSB adopted the new PELs on January 19, and the changes went into effect on March 17. More information about exposure limits is available in the California Department of Industrial Relations' PEL and STEL table.

Read more:

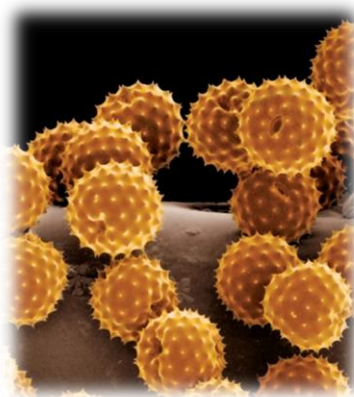
<http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/quicktakes/qt04022012.html#14>

Anthrax Information Available on NIOSH Web

NIOSH announces a new topic page on anthrax. This page features NIOSH information and resources for protecting workers from exposure to anthrax. It also provides a home on the Web for guidance and products developed by the NIOSH anthrax working group.

Read more:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/enews/enewsV9N12.html#know>



Salon Workers May Be Exposed to Hazardous Chemicals in Nail Polish and Nail Care Products



The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced its discovery of certain nail polish and nail care products that may endanger nail salon workers and the public despite being marketed as non-toxic. These findings are

especially critical for California's estimated 121,000 licensed nail care technicians, many of whom are exposed every day to chemicals in poorly ventilated salons. In May 2011, DTSC tested twenty-five nail care products sold by California distributors. Of the nearly half claiming to be "toxic-free," ten contained toluene and four contained dibutyl phthalate (DBP).

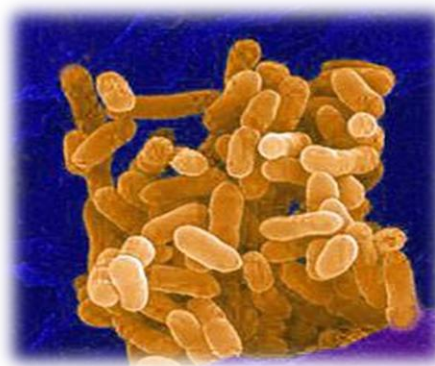
Read more:

<http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/quicktakes/qt04162012.html#10>

Comparison of the Efficiency of Sampling Devices for Aerosolized *Burkholderia Pseudomallei*

Previous studies have demonstrated that aerosol sampling devices can have deleterious effects on bacteria due to stresses intrinsic to the sampling processes. Although a significant amount of work has been carried out to develop animal models of inhalational melioidosis, little information has been reported on the effects of the aerosol sampling devices on the causative bacterium, *Burkholderia pseudomallei*.

The aim of this study was to compare the efficiencies for collection of aerosolized bacteria in three sampling devices that have been used in studies utilizing aerosolized *B. pseudomallei*.



Read more:

<http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/08958378.2012.666682>

Submicron Particle Monitoring of Paving and Related Road Construction Operations



This study identified activities and sources that contribute to ultrafine and other submicron particle exposure that could trigger respiratory symptoms in highway repair workers. Submicron particle monitoring was conducted for paving, milling, and pothole repair operations in a major metropolitan area where several

highway repair workers were identified as symptomatic for respiratory illness following exposures at the 2001 World Trade Center disaster site. Exposure assessments were conducted for eight trades involved in road construction using a TSI P-Trak portable condensation particle counter. Direct readings near the workers' breathing zones and observations of activities and potential sources were logged on 7 days on 27 workers using four different models of pavers and two types of millers.

Read more: Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, Volume 9 Issue 5 May 2012 (Available with AIHA membership)

Airborne Isocyanate Exposures in the Collision Repair Industry and a Comparison to Occupational Exposure Limits

Isocyanate exposure was evaluated in 33 spray painters from 25 Washington State autobody shops. Personal breathing zone samples ($n = 228$) were analyzed for isophorone diisocyanate (IPDI) monomer, 1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) monomer, IPDI polyisocyanate, and three polyisocyanate forms of HDI. The objective was to describe exposures to isocyanates while spray painting, compare them with short-term exposure limits (STELs), and



describe the isocyanate composition in the samples.

May 2012 (Available with AIHA membership)

Read more: Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, Volume 9 Issue 5

Evaluation of Portable Single-Gas Monitors for the Detection of Low Levels of Hydrogen Sulfide and Sulfur Dioxide in Petroleum Industry Environments

Many portable single-gas monitors are used for the detection of low concentrations of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) in the workplace. With the recent lowering of the H₂S and SO₂ ACGIH® TLV® the ability of these devices to selectively respond to these new lower levels is not well documented in petroleum industry environments, which often have potential interfering gases and vapors present as well as varying environmental conditions. Tests

were carried out to measure the ability of various monitors with their respective sensors to correctly quantify and respond to H₂S and SO₂ in a simulated petroleum industry environment.

*Read more: Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, Volume 9 Issue 5
May 2012 (Available with AIHA membership)*

Radiation

Hospitals with Radioactive Materials Expose Weakness in Antiterror Rules

In testimony prepared for delivery to a Senate Homeland Security subcommittee, an official from the Government Accountability Office plans to say that people with responsibility for security told the auditors that they were trained as physicists or radiation health technicians and were being told to enforce regulations



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“that they did not believe they were fully qualified to interpret.”

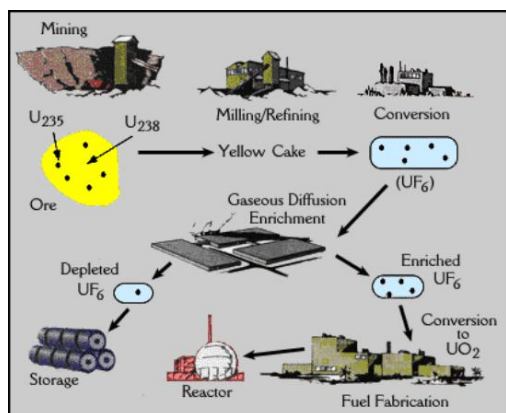
The materials in question cannot be used to make a nuclear bomb, but if incorporated into a device with conventional explosives they would make a “dirty bomb” that could contaminate significant areas of a city with

measurable amounts of radiation, some of it worrisome.

Read more:

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/14/us/hospital-audit-finds-radioactive-materials-unsecured.html?_r=1&ref=radiation

Uranium Mines Dot Navajo Land, Neglected and Still Perilous



In the summer of 2010, a Navajo cattle rancher stumbled upon an abandoned uranium mine in the middle of his grazing land and figured he had better call in the feds. Engineers from the EPA arrived a few months later, Geiger counters in hand, and

found radioactivity levels that buried the needles on their equipment.

The abandoned mine here, about 60 miles east of the Grand Canyon, joins the list of hundreds of such sites identified across the 27,000 square miles of Navajo territory in Arizona, Utah and New Mexico that are the legacy of shoddy mining practices and federal neglect. From the 1940s through the 1980s, the mines supplied critical materials to the nation’s nuclear weapons program.

Read more:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/01/us/uranium-mines-dot-navajo-land-neglected-and-still-perilous.html?ref=radiation#>

Ventilation

Green Innovations in Underfloor Air Distribution

Underfloor-air-distribution (UFAD) systems have been used for comfort conditioning in U.S. office buildings since the early 1990s. With a UFAD system, air is delivered to occupied spaces through floor-mounted

outlets supplied by a pressurized plenum beneath a suspended floor.

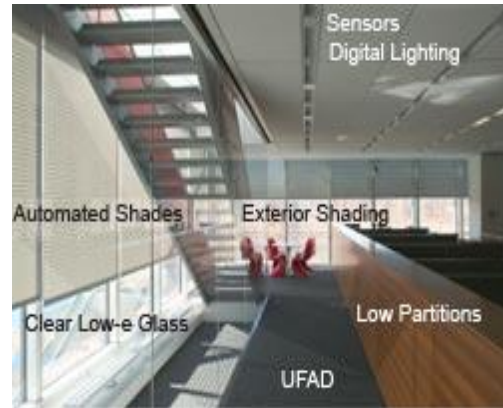
A properly designed UFAD system takes advantage of thermal stratification. The key is to have a diffuser that rapidly mixes air

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before it penetrates the stratification layer at the upper end of the occupied zone.

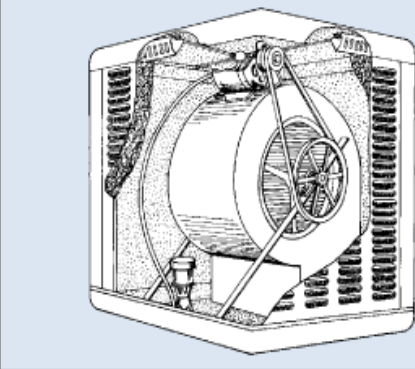
Read more:

<http://hpac.com/ventilation-iag/green-innovations-underfloor-air-0312/>



Tips for Troubleshooting Evaporative Coolers

Evaporative Cooler



Many warehouses and industrial plants in dry climates, such as the Southwestern U.S., use evaporative coolers rather than mechanical air conditioning because evaporative coolers are more economical to operate. Engineers for commercial or industrial facilities that rely on evaporative

coolers know the units are simple and dependable, but, like any mechanical device, occasionally need maintenance and service.

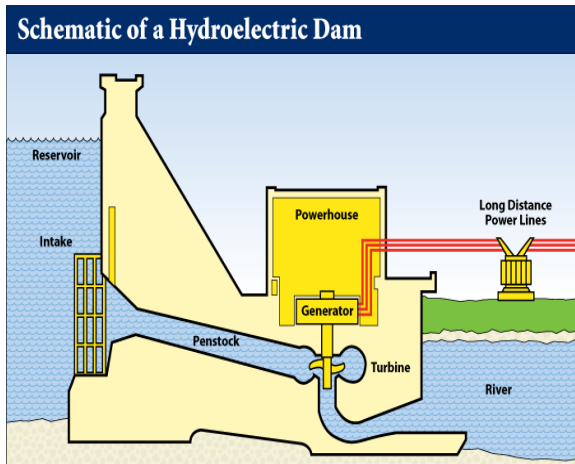
Begin your troubleshooting by verifying proper installation of the unit. For ducted coolers that have variable sheaves (motor pulleys), ensure that the sheave settings are set to the motor-nameplate amps. Make sure exhaust ducting is available when setting motor amps; there should be approximately 2 sq ft of exhaust for every 1,000 cfm of airflow the cooler produces.

Read more:

<http://hpac.com/air-conditioning/tips-troubleshooting-evaporative-coolers-0412/>

Noise

Federal Agencies Team Up to Reduce Noise in Dams, Hydroelectric Plants



On March 26, Office of Naval Research (ONR) officials announced that ONR will team up with the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in an interagency agreement to address noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) at hydroelectric plants and dams across the U.S. According

to the ONR press release, the agency will "help identify noise sources and propose engineering controls" that will "turn down the volume" for workers in these environments. The Bureau of Reclamation maintains and operates 476 dams and 58 hydroelectric power plants; the Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for 25,000 miles of commercially navigable channels and 2,500 recreational areas.

Read more:

<http://www.aiha.org/news-pubs/synergist/newswatch/Pages/FederalAgenciesTeamUptoReduceNoiseinDams,HydroelectricPlants.aspx>

A Laser-Powered Ear Implant to Boost Hearing

Hearing loss from weapons and explosive devices has been the No. 1 disability in this country's modern military conflicts, saddling thousands of veterans with anything from tinnitus to deafness. Now a new generation of laser-based implants promises to restore their hearing — and that of civilians, too — with higher resolution than existing technology.



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Rather than stimulating inner ear auditory cells with electricity, or modifying them to respond to light directly, new laser-based cochlear implants will stimulate cells with heat. Here's how it works.

Read more

<http://www.popsci.com/technology/article/2012-04/how-it-works-artificial-hearing-device-made-lasers>

Typical Noise Exposure in Daily Life



The objective of this study was to identify the distribution of typical noise levels present in daily life and identify factors associated with average sound levels. This was an observational study.

Participants (N = 286) were 20 to 68 year old men and women, drawn from the general population of Kalamazoo County, Michigan. A total of 73 000 person-hours of noise monitoring were conducted. The median overall daily average levels were 79 and 77 dBL_{eq,A,8,equiv}, with average levels exceeding EPA recommended levels for 70% of participants.

Read more:

<http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/14992027.2011.635316>

Preventive Medicine

Physicians Call for Improvements to Country's Public Health System

A call for an improved public health infrastructure that works collaboratively with physicians in order to ensure the public's safety and health was made by the American College of Physicians (ACP). The action was highlighted by the release of a new policy paper, "Strengthening the Public Health Infrastructure," at Internal Medicine 2012, ACP's annual scientific meeting.



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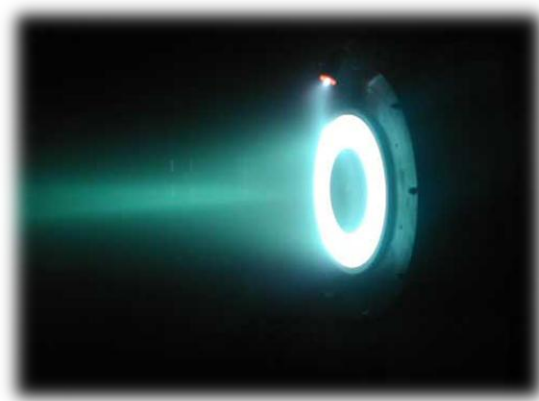
ACP's paper makes the case for adequate investments in public health, which is the practice of preventing diseases and promoting good health within groups of people. Public health depends on an underlying foundation, or infrastructure, to support the planning, delivery, and evaluation of public health activities and practices.

Read more:

<http://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/news/2012/04/physicians-call-for-improvements-to-countrys-public-health-system.aspx>

Bacteria-Blasting 'Flashlight' Could Help Save Lives

In a disaster zone, whether it's the aftermath of a tornado or on a battleground, emergency medical personnel have to work fast to save lives. In an effort to speed good care, scientists have developed a handheld, battery-operated "flashlight" that can instantly sterilize wounds by beaming plasma at bacteria. Plasma, gases that are produced in electrical discharges, is something of a rock star in intensive healing. Previous studies show that it effectively kills bacteria and viruses on skin and water surfaces and helps heal wounds.



Read more:

<http://healthland.time.com/2012/04/06/bacteria-blasting-flashlight-could-help-save-lives/#ixzz1sEmra43j>

Optimizing Health Care Delivery by Integrating Workplace Health Programs

Because health in the workplace, health at home and health in communities are interconnected, integrating workplace health programs with other health initiatives could optimize health care delivery, according to a new American

College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) position statement.

Read more:

<http://ehstoday.com/health/news/integrating-workplace-health-programs-0425/>

Lead Dust Is Linked to Violence, Study Suggests



effects, and now lead dust from vehicles using leaded gasoline has been linked to instances of aggravated assault two decades after exposure, says Tulane toxicologist.

Read more:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/04/120417162725.htm>

Childhood exposure to lead dust has been linked to lasting physical and behavioral

Rare Emerging Disease Claims Texas Girl's Leg

A 14-year-old Texas girl was finally cured of an often-fatal emerging disease when doctors amputated her lower leg, where the infection arose, after various antimicrobials proved ineffective. The culprit was *Pythium insidiosum*, a fungus-like microbe which rarely causes disease in humans and then primarily in Thailand.



Read more:

<http://www.infectioncontrolday.com/news/2012/04/rare-emerging-disease-claims->

[texas-girls-leg-pcr-plus-sequencing-identified-culprit.aspx](http://www.infectioncontrolday.com/news/2012/04/rare-emerging-disease-claims-texas-girls-leg-pcr-plus-sequencing-identified-culprit.aspx)

Peak of Spring Allergies around the Corner



Things got off to a sneezy, stuffy start earlier than usual this year, when unseasonably warm

temperatures in March revved up tree pollen about two weeks ahead of schedule in most areas of the country.

As tree pollen season comes to a close in early May, experts say grass pollen season, which usually begins in late April, is just

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getting started. The overlap could compound the misery of many allergy sufferers.

Read more:

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/worst-allergy-season-experts/story?id=16198006>

Environmental Health

U.S. Army Plans Green Warrior Convoy for 2013

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment made the announcement during the opening of the Army's new Ground Systems Power and Energy Laboratory, or GSPEL, at the Detroit Arsenal, Warren, Michigan.

One year from now the Army will launch a Green Warrior Convoy of vehicles from Warren to Washington to road test technologies and systems developed at the Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center.

Rolling across the U.S., the convoy will stop at schools, colleges, communities and military facilities to demonstrate the importance of energy improvements such as fuel cells, hybrid systems, battery technologies and alternative fuels.



Read more: <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/apr2012/2012-04-12-091.html>

Survey Says: Emphasis on OHS Needed in New Sustainability Guidelines



The results of a survey issued by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) last autumn indicate significant support for the addition of occupational health and safety metrics to the upcoming revision of GRI's Sustainability Reporting Guidelines. The

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revised guidelines, known as G4, are scheduled to be published in 2013.

[ysEmphasisOnOHSNeededInNewSustainabilityGuidelines.aspx](http://www.aisa.org/News/EmphasisOnOHSNeededInNewSustainabilityGuidelines.aspx)

Read more: <http://www.aiha.org/news-pubs/synergist/newswatch/Pages/SurveySa>

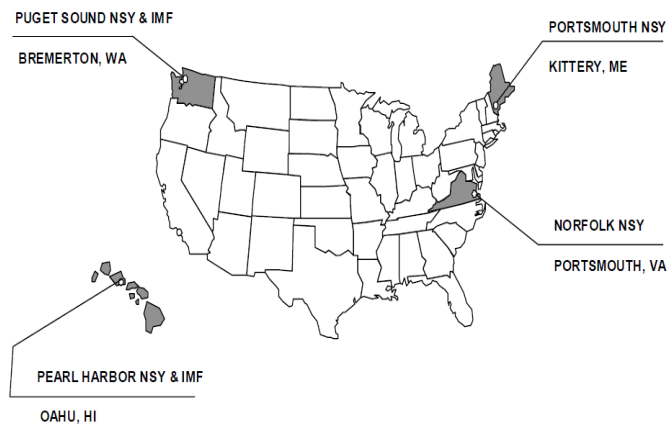
Ergonomics

Naval Shipyard Ergonomics: A Community of Practice

This article highlights ergonomics initiatives that have proven successful at four Naval Shipyards. Each initiative used a different approach to improving ergonomics: in-house development, equipment purchase, technology insertion, and management change.

Read more:

<http://phc.amedd.army.mil/Periodical%20Library/126DoDEWGNews,ShipyardErgonomics,issue126,MARAPR12.pdf>



Method to Measure Operating Room Ergonomics



Covidien, a leading provider of healthcare products, announced that researchers have developed a new method to measure the physical strain placed on surgeons while performing minimally invasive surgery. By analyzing surgeons' motions in the operating room, researchers will gain new insights into proper postures, techniques and body angles that should influence the development of new ergonomically designed minimally invasive surgery instruments.

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Read more:

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/covidien->

[announces-method-measure-operating-201500254.html](http://finance.yahoo.com/news/covidien-201500254.html)

Safety

National Severe Weather Preparedness Week



As the nation marks the first anniversary of one of the largest tornado outbreaks in U.S. history, NOAA and FEMA teamed up to save lives from severe weather by encouraging the public to *know your risk, take action*, and *be a force of nature* by taking proactive

preparedness measures and inspiring others to do the same.

In late April last year, tornadoes raked the central and southern U.S., spawning more than 300 tornadoes and claiming hundreds of lives. That devastating outbreak was only one of many weather-related tragedies in 2011, which now holds the record for the greatest number of multi-billion dollar weather disasters in the nation's history.

Read more:

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2012/20120420_severewx.html

Study: Tax Deadline Day Can Be Deadly On U.S. Roads

The two certainties in life — death and taxes — may be more intertwined than Ben Franklin ever imagined: A study found that deadly auto accidents increase on Tax Day. Drivers recklessly racing to the post office to meet the deadline might be one reason. Or it could be that stressing over taxes distracts motorists and contributes to human error, researchers said.



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They looked at 30 years of data and found 6,783 traffic-related deaths on Tax Day, or 226 per day. That compares with 213 per day on one day a week before the deadline day and another day a week after.

Read more:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/47009084>

NFPA Offered Quiz on Preparing Property, Homes for Wildfires



which consists of 10 questions, focuses on Firewise principles and tips residents can use to help prepare their homes and property before a wildfire threatens their area.

Read more:

<http://ohsonline.com/articles/2012/04/08/nfpa-offers-quiz-on-preparing-property-homes-for-wildfires.aspx?admgarea=ht.DisasterPreparedness>

The NFPA's Firewise Communities Program has posted a new online quiz, "Preparing Your Home for Wildfire Season." The quiz,

OSHA, NIOSH, Renew Alliance to Protect Workers in Roadway Construction Work Zones

OSHA renewed an Alliance with the Roadway Work Zone Safety and Health Partners to protect workers while working in roadway construction work zones. The Alliance will focus on preventing worker injuries and deaths from construction vehicle runovers and backovers, and focuses on increased outreach to non-English-speaking or limited-English-speaking workers.



Read more:

<http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadis>

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[p.show document?p table=NEWS RELEAS ES&p id=22194](http://p.show.document?p.table=NEWS+RELEAS&p.id=22194)

Flame Retardants May Create Deadlier Fires



Pool-fire
(Standard FR PU Foam)



No Pool-fire
(PU Foam+ Carbon Nanofibers)

In one of the deadliest nightclub fires in American history, 100 people died at a rock concert in Rhode Island nearly a decade ago. But the biggest killer wasn't the flames; it was lethal gases released from burning sound-insulation foam and other plastics.

In a fatal bit of irony, attempts to snuff fires like this catastrophic one could be making some fires even more deadly. New research suggests that chemicals – brominated and chlorinated flame retardants – that are added to upholstered furniture and other household items to stop the spread of flames increase emissions of two poisonous gases.

Read more:

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=flame-retardants-may-create-deadlier-fires>

Court Restricts OSHA's Timeframe on Recordkeeping Violations

A new court ruling significantly changes how far back OSHA can look for violations of its standard on recording employee injuries. In a case involving Volks Constructors of Prairieville, LA, the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC) had ruled in 2011 that OSHA can look back five years for recordkeeping violations.

But now the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has issued a decision that cuts the period down to just six months.

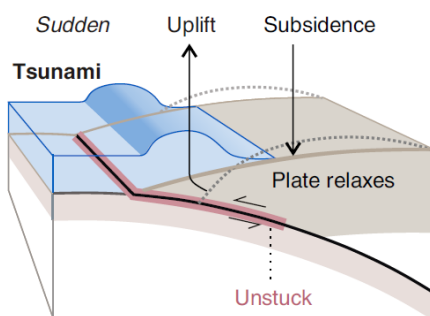


Read more:

<http://www.safetynewsalert.com/new-ruling-how-far-back-can-osh-a-look-for-recordkeeping-violations/>

Emergency Preparedness

Tsunami Zones in the Northwest



DURING AN EARTHQUAKE the leading edge of the overriding plate breaks free, springing seaward and upward. Behind, the plate stretches; its surface falls. The vertical displacements set off a tsunami.

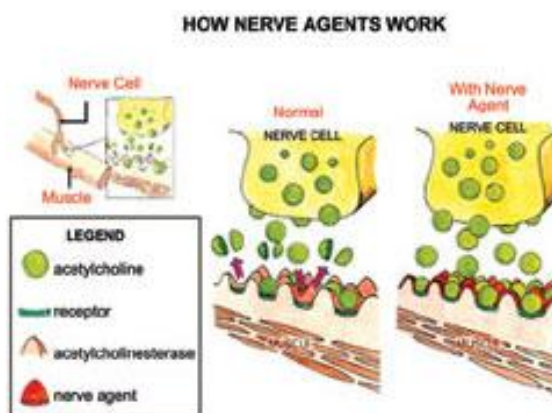
A new suite of online portal and smartphone apps is providing information on tsunami zones in the U.S. Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Tsunami Evacuation Zones online portal and free apps provide an at-a-glance view of tsunami hazard zones along the coasts of Oregon and Washington.

Read more:

<http://ohsonline.com/articles/2012/04/07/new-app-provides-information-on-tsunami-zones-in-the-northwest.aspx?admgarea=news>

Defending Against Chemical Acts of Terrorism

Researchers may have found a way to protect us against otherwise deadly chemical attacks, such as the subway sarin incident in Tokyo that left 13 people dead and thousands more injured or with temporary vision problems. The method is based on a new and improved version of a detoxifying enzyme produced naturally by our livers, according to the report in the *Chemistry & Biology*, a Cell Press publication.



Read more:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/04/120419121523.htm>

Deployment Health

Liquid Body Armor



A revolutionary new armor relies on a liquid that hardens when something hits it, promising unprecedented protection while letting soldiers move freely, unrestricted by bulk and weight.

Protection for warriors has long meant weight and bulk from ceramic plates and Kevlar that cover large areas of the body but reduce maneuverability, agility and speed. And in war zones like Iraq and Afghanistan, temperatures can reach 120⁰F, meaning heavy armor can also accelerate fatigue.

Read more:

<http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2012/04/05/forget-kevlar-liquid-body-armor-hardens-on-impact/#ixzz1rvwXoZiV>

Guidelines Issued On Live Explosives in Battlefield Surgery

Operations to remove an explosive device from a servicemember's body are rare. Military medical officers officially report three cases from the current wars, though some doctors say there have been more. Even so, it's a big enough concern, guidelines on how to perform the delicate surgery have been issued for doctors in Afghanistan.

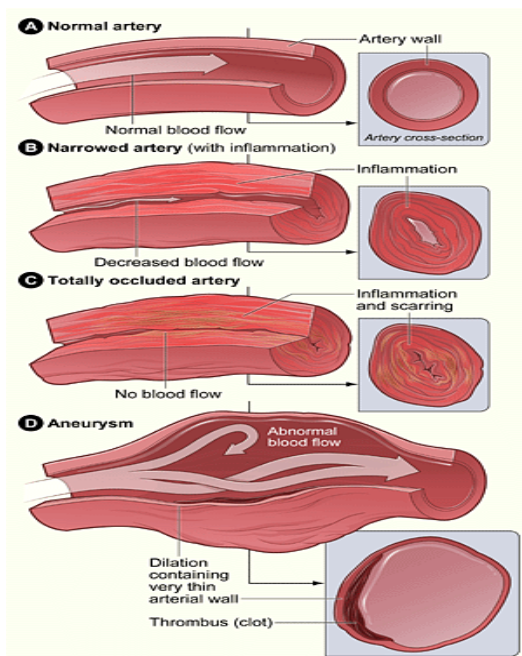
Read more:

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/military/story/2012-04-09/wounds-guidelines-live-bombs/54328636/1>



Nanotechnology

Nanopollutants Change Blood Vessel Reactivity



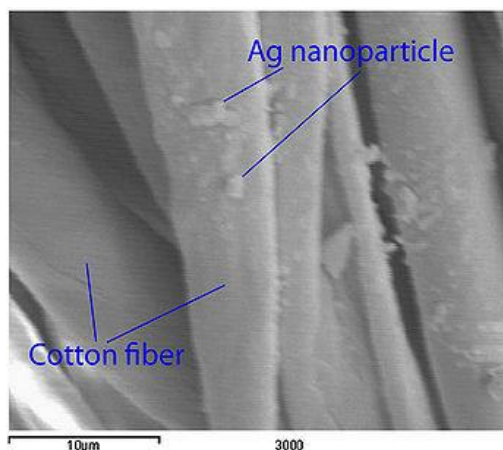
Exposure to nano-sized particles can impair the responsiveness of very tiny blood vessels, new animal studies show. Vessels called arterioles don't dilate or constrict appropriately after recent nanoparticle exposure. The changes are small "but equate to a level of impairment that would preclude affected tissues from functioning normally," says microvascular physiologist Timothy Nurkiewicz of West Virginia University in Morgantown.

Read more:

http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/339240/title/Nanopollutants_change_blood_vessel_reactivity

Genotoxicity, Evaluation of Silver Nanoparticles

To clarify the health risks related to silver nanoparticles (Ag-NPs), researchers evaluated the genotoxicity, acute oral and dermal toxicity, eye irritation, dermal irritation and corrosion and skin sensitisation of commercially manufactured Ag-NPs according to the OECD test guidelines and GLP. The Ag-NPs were not found to induce genotoxicity in a bacterial reverse mutation test and chromosomal aberration test, although some cytotoxicity was observed.



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Read more:

<http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3>

109/17435390.2012.676099

Regulatory Research & Industrial Hygiene Professional News

NIH

Researchers Develop New Personal Exposure Monitoring Technology



pollution enters the respiratory system in real time. The technology relies on built-in acceleration sensors to determine individual activity levels and predict how fast adults breathe pollutants in their environment.

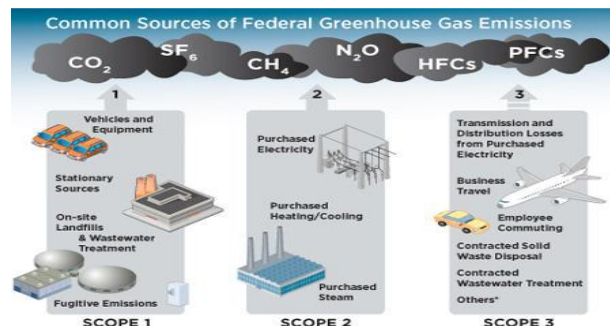
Read more: <http://www.aiha.org/news-pubs/synergist/newswatch/Pages/ResearchersDevelopNewPersonalExposureMonitoringTechnology.aspx>

A team of researchers has developed new personal exposure monitoring technology that allows scientists to calculate how much

EPA

EPA Publishes National U.S. Greenhouse Gas Inventory

The EPA has released the 17th annual U.S. greenhouse gas inventory. The final report shows overall emissions in 2010 increased by 3.2% from the previous year. The trend is attributed to an increase in energy consumption across all economic sectors, due to increasing energy demand



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associated with an expanding economy, and increased demand for electricity for air conditioning due to warmer summer weather during 2010.

Total emissions of the six main greenhouse gases in 2010 were equivalent to 6,822 million metric tons of carbon dioxide. These gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride.

The report indicates that overall emissions have grown by over 10% from 1990 to 2010.

Read more:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/fd673dd2c01aea26852579e200566352!OpenDocument>

OSHA

OSHA's Issues Directive on Communicating with Family Following a Workplace Fatality



A new OSHA directive guides OSHA representatives in communicating investigation procedures with family members following a workplace fatality. The guidance is geared to ensure that OSHA representatives speak to the worker's family early in the inspection process,

establish a point of contact, and maintain a working relationship with the family.

Under the new directive, OSHA representatives will contact the victim's family to explain the investigation process and timeline and provide the family with updates throughout the investigation. Once the investigation is closed, OSHA will explain findings to the family and address any questions. If an employer has been issued citations, OSHA will provide a copy of the citation(s) to the family.

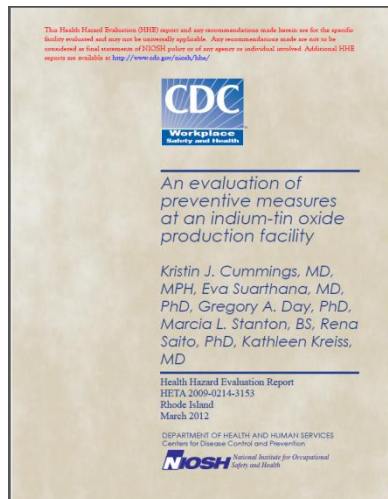
Read more:

<http://ohsonline.com/articles/2012/04/19/osha-issues-directive-on-communicating-with-family-following-a-workplace-fatality.aspx?admgarea=news>

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NIOSH

NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation: Indium-Tin Oxide Production Facility



NIOSH released a new health hazard evaluation (HHE) titled "An Evaluation of Preventive Measures at an Indium-Tin Oxide Production Facility." The evaluation was requested by the management of an indium-tin oxide production facility in

Rhode Island due to company concerns about the potential lung toxicity of indium compounds found within the facility. The 107-page report contains NIOSH results and recommendations based on that evaluation.

OSHA lists health effects from indium as cumulative lung damage and cumulative organ damage, depending on the compound. Indium is also listed as a suspected teratogen.

Read more:

<http://www.ishn.com/articles/niosh-releases-guide-on-reducing-risk-of-skin-injuries-from-chemical-exposure->

USAPHC

WRMC Safety Office is April's DOEHRs-IH *Super Stars*

The Western Regional Medical Command's (WRMC) Safety Office is using DOEHRs-IH data captured at MEDCOM sites to assist MTF's undergoing the VPP process. To be considered for VPP, organizations must present IH and Safety inspection results,

maintain a master hazard tracking log, and show movement to correct these hazards. The Regional Safety Office has requested inspection data from the installation Industrial Hygienists that identify hazards entered into DOEHRs. This data will help



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the WRMC's Safety Office gain visibility on all hazards currently identified throughout

the region. Congratulations to this month's winner.

How to become a DOEHRS-IH Super Star

- ✓ Do feel like you use DOEHRS-IH more than other program offices?
- ✓ Do you feel unnoticed?
- ✓ Do you feel like you have done great IH things with DOEHRS-IH?
- ✓ Do you wear a unitard and cape under your clothes? (Don't answer this question please)

Email the [Industrial Hygiene Training Coordinator](#) a brief synopsis about a new idea, a faster way, or a milestone you just met. Your Program Office just may be nominated as the monthly DOEHRS-IH **Super Star**.

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Training

This monthly summary is published by the Industrial Hygiene and Medical Safety Management Program (IHMSMP) for the U.S. Army Public Health Command.

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New Course! Risk Communication for Industrial Hygienists

USAPHC is offering a Risk Communication Course June 25 – 27, 2012, at National Guard Armory Conference Center, Havre de Grace, MD. This three-day face-to-face course will provide risk communication training specific to issues commonly encountered by the Industrial Hygienist in the field. Course spaces are reserved for series 640 and 690 MEDCOM military and civilian personnel. Other qualified personnel can attend on a space available basis. To apply and for more information about the course visit https://usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/TrainCon/Describe.aspx?Name=IH_Risk_Comm.

Defense Connect Online (DCO)

Looking for free or affordable IH related courses for points, credits, or a refresher? The Army Institute of Public Health (AIPH) offers on-demand, teleconference, and on-site training options. Please contact the [Industrial Hygiene Training Coordinator](#) for more information.

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